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Message Text

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71-60
ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SSO-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03 NSC-05

NSCE-00 EB-03 CIAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 INR-05 INRE-00

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APPROVED BY EUR RDVINE
EUR/NE:JJCROWLEY
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE
INFO COMICEDEFOR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION NATO
SECDEF
CNO
CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 279402

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, IC, UK, PFOR

SUBJECT: ICELAND/UK FISHERIES DISPUTE

REF: (A) REYKJAVIK 1355
(B) LONDON 18174

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FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM VINE

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1. REFTEL A NOTES THAT SCENARIO TO DATE OF CURRENT ESCALATION OF UK/ICELAND FISHERIES DISPUTE IS IDENTICAL TO THAT OF 1972-73 "COD WAR" IN ALMOST EVERY DETAIL. SINCE RESULTS FOR US OF THAT LAST DISPUTE WERE SO UNFORTUNATE, AT LEAST UNTIL THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS ENDED SUCCESSFULLY, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN YOUR MORE DETAILED ASSESSMENT OF WHERE THE CIRCUMSTANCES MAY DIFFER THIS TIME AND HOW YOU SEE THINGS DEVELOPING OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WE WOULD, OF COURSE, LIKE TO AVOID THE DIFFICULTIES THAT WERE CREATED FOR NATO AND FOR THE US DURING THE LAST "COD WAR," AND WOULD THEREFORE ALSO LIKE TO HAVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS OF ANYTHING WE MIGHT DO TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION WITHOUT, HOWEVER, INVOLVING OURSELVES IN AN ACRIMONOUS AND EMOTIONAL DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO NATO ALLIES.

2. FOR EXAMPLE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE FRG (ANOTHER NATO ALLY) HAS BEEN ABLE TO WORK OUT A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT WITH THE ICELANDERS, WOULD YOU CONSIDER IT USEFUL FOR US TO REQUEST THE FRG TO TRY TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES WITH THE BRITISH? CONSIDERATION IS ALREADY BEING GIVEN TO A HIGH LEVEL APPROACH (BASED ON NATO CONSIDERATIONS) TO HMG. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 26 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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